

Equal Rights

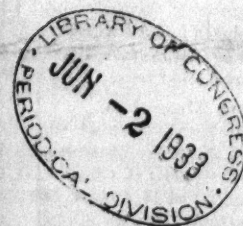
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SATURDAY
JUNE 3, 1933



Officers of the National Woman's Party Conference

A group of leaders at the Conference of Woman's Party Workers, held in Washington, D. C., May 27-28, is seen in the Garden of the Dodge Hotel. From left to right, seated: Florence Bayard Hilles, Chairman of the National Council of the National Woman's Party, and Edith Houghton Hooker, Chairman of the Committee on Organization; standing: Emilie A. Doetsch, Chairman, General Committee on Arrangements; Amelia H. Walker, Toastmistress at the luncheon on May 27, and Rebekah Greathouse, Co-Chairman with Edwina Austin Avery of the Committee on Local Arrangements.



Equal Rights



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MEMBERSHIP OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

Annual Dues	\$10.00
Associate Members	\$1.00
Subscribing Members	\$3.00
Founders	\$100.00
Life Members	\$1,000.00
Endowers	\$5,000.00
Sustainers	\$5,000.00

OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 1]
[House Joint Resolution Number 1]

Introduced in the Senate March 10, 1933,
by SENATOR JOHN G. TOWNSEND, Delaware.

Introduced in the House March 9, 1933,
by REPRESENTATIVE LOUIS LUDLOW, Indiana.

Upon This Rock

THE Conference of Woman's Party Workers, held in Washington, D. C., on May 27-28, proved that even the depression could not dampen the ardor of the Feminist spirit.

In point of fact it was conspicuous that the depression had augmented the zeal of the members of the Woman's Party. The discriminations against women, married and unmarried, that have followed in the wake of the hard times were accepted by the Conference as a challenge. More than ever before women were determined to end, once and for all time, the discriminations against their sex in the business, professional and industrial world.

All sections of the United States were represented at the Conference and the testimony of women from such remotely related districts as Maine, Florida, Maryland and California was identical. Everywhere women in the gainful occupations were under attack and were daily, and in increasing numbers, being robbed of their means to a livelihood. Equal Rights had clearly shifted from the theoretical sphere to the practical realm of grim necessity.

At the hearing on the Equal Rights Amendment preceding the Conference some of the delegates had heard the fatuous arguments of the opposition, and they were up in arms at the audacity of those who, in the name of "protection," dared to deny women the economic rights verbally guaranteed by the Constitution to all "persons" in the United States. Thinking women had at last seen through the nonsense of "protective legislation," and they were no longer ready to sell their birthright for a mess of pottage.

Many, many years ago Susan B. Anthony said that there could never be true freedom for women until they had achieved their economic emancipation.

The Conference of Woman's Party Workers was a significant landmark in this respect. Its central theme was not academic principles, but how to secure for women Equal Rights with men in making an honest living. Upon this rock the modern Feminist movement is founded, and upon this firm foundation will be erected the temple of Liberty which women will one day occupy. But they must work swiftly or their protectors will "protect" them not only out of their jobs, but off the planet.

Make Women Strong

IT IS a perfectly obvious fact that the present morass in which humanity finds itself is intolerable. Plenty of work to be done and plenty of workers willing to do it, but no jobs for anyone. Food needed, clothes needed, houses needed, everything needed, but "over production" is blamed for the country's ills. "Under-consumption" might be a better term for the situation, but we are not interested in terms; as women we desire to see our children fed and housed and clothed before we discuss terminology.

The leadership of the world has conspicuously broken down and the leadership of the world consists of our sons, and our sons alone. Our daughters, in the present plight, are rather worse than useless. In the first place they have no power of their own, and in the second place the "influence" of the women men generally select as their intimate advisers is recorded by history as leading usually in the wrong direction. We, and civilization with us, appear to have arrived at an impasse. In a few years more our leaders will presumably be at one another's throats, and aided by science in the supreme art of mutual destruction will succeed in wiping out the human race.

It is about time for the mothers of the race to wake up and take a hand in the proceedings. For several hundreds of millions of years the female of the species has gone on paying for life without getting what she had paid for. If she has now, at last, developed sufficient intelligence she can realize on the aeons. The principal business of women, on this planet, is to express themselves through succeeding generations; the principal business of men is to express themselves right now. Between the two there is an infinite difference: the difference between an enduring and a transient civilization.

As enlightened women the choice is clear, but how are we to proceed? The daughters of the race are perennially young and inexperienced, and the future lies not in our hands, but in theirs.

But do not be disheartened; the problem is not too difficult. Through organization, through legislation, through education release women from parasitism and make them strong. An enduring civilization will follow. Providence itself has ordained that any free female creature will protect her offspring.

The Hearing on the Equal Rights Amendment

DETERMINATION to end discrimination in the law between men and women in this country was voiced by speakers on May 27 at a hearing on the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the Federal Constitution before the Senate Judiciary sub-committee, meeting in the United States Capitol. Members of the sub-committee are Senators Sam G. Bratton (D.) of New Mexico, chairman; Hugo L. Black (D.) of Alabama; Daniel O. Hastings (R.) of Delaware; Patrick McCarran (D.) of Nevada; Warren R. Austin (R.) of Vermont.

The long committee-room on the first floor in the Senate wing of the Capitol was filled to capacity. All chairs were taken well before the hour set for the hearing. From 10 o'clock until noon women stood in rows along the walls, in corners, wherever they could edge in. They were young women college graduates; women who were already grandmothers when the fight on Capitol Hill centered around women's right to vote; a United States woman Representative, who came early and remained until the last witness was heard; newspaper women; women from every walk of life. Only two of those women were there in opposition to the amendment.

United States Senator John G. Townsend, Jr., (R.) of Delaware, who introduced the measure as Joint Resolution No. 1 in this session of Congress, opened the hearing with the following statement in support of his resolution:

"It has been my observation that women have not sought recognition in our political life as a matter of special privilege, rather they have asked simply for their rights. On this ground they won their suffrage. It is my belief that on the same principle of justice they will win equality in legal status.

"It may be contended that the results hoped for in the enactment of this measure might be accomplished by working through State legislatures. I submit that such procedure would mean long delay, considering the major and minor inequalities at stake—each requiring legislative routine—whereas enactment of this resolution would accomplish the desired result without this waste of time and effort.

"The provisions of this resolution seem to me to involve a matter of delayed justice. I shall hope earnestly for a favorable report from the committee and for favorable action by the present Congress."

He then introduced Florence Bayard Hilles (Delaware), Chairman of the National Council of the National Woman's Party, who spoke and introduced the following speakers from eight States:

Burnita Shelton Matthews (Mississippi), Legal Research Chairman of the National Woman's Party;

Maud Younger (San Francisco), Congressional Chairman of the National Woman's Party;

Elizabeth White (New Castle, Pennsylvania), representing the Quota Clubs International;

Katherine Harrington (New York), representing Bindery Women's Union No. 66, affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Bookbinders;

Rebekah Greathouse (Washington, D. C.), representing the Lawyers' Council of the National Woman's Party;

Ruth Taunton (Los Angeles), representing the Business Women's Legislative Council of California;

Ida Hodnett (Georgia), representing the Government Workers' Council of the National Woman's Party;

Sara B. Cummings (Philadelphia), representing the Married Women Teachers' Association of Philadelphia.

Mrs. Hilles said: "Today the civil rights of women can be extended or restricted at the caprice of any State legislative authority, so that a woman's right to earn her living in the trades or professions, or the uses of the powers of her mind or body, can be defined, permitted, or denied by State legislative authority. The history of the common law is the story of master and slave. Women were at one time in the slave class, and some of the attributes of that status still cling to her. Today there is absolutely no reason to regard woman as a weakling or an inferior. She has demonstrated her ability in spite of the handicaps imposed upon her by law and custom, and has earned her complete emancipation. This emancipation should be written into the federal constitution in order that it may be made secure."

Maud Younger, Congressional Chairman of the Woman's Party, was the second witness called. She said: "Today the right of a woman to earn her living is being challenged from one end of the country to the other. The past three years have seen the widespread dismissal of women—married or single—merely because they were women. There have been new efforts to handicap women in securing employment through legislation which applies to them and not to their male competitors. The Equal Rights Amendment, which would prevent such disastrous discrimination, was never more necessary."

Burnita Shelton Matthews, Legal Research Chairman, said in part: "There is not a State in the Union which does not today have laws that discriminate against women. It is not only women who must have paid employment who are

affected by these discriminations. Even the right of a mother to her child is insecure, since in Alabama, Arizona, Louisiana, and Texas the father is the sole natural guardian of minor children. In some States it is legally possible for the father to will away the custody of children from the mother. In other States the father alone is entitled to the services and earnings of the children. These discriminations are not mere legal theory, but bitter reality to many mothers in this country. The only certain way to wipe out these discriminations and to prevent future discriminations is to write into the Constitution a provision prohibiting all discriminations based on sex." Senator Austin asked interested questions and Mrs. Matthews replied.

Elizabeth White of Pennsylvania, representing Quota Clubs International, said: "I represent 2,500 business and professional women throughout the United States who are interested in the Equal Rights Amendment. These women are particularly interested in equal opportunity for women with men for employment. We do not object to protective labor laws, but we know that laws which apply only to women and not to their men competitors place women at a serious disadvantage in the labor market. The very fact that there are more restrictive laws passed in times of depression shows that they are not so much protective measures for women as they are for men."

Sara B. Cummings, representing the Married Women Teachers' Association of Philadelphia, said: "The recent session of the Pennsylvania Legislature saw a determined attempt to curtail the married woman's right to earn a living. That attempt made no headway whatsoever. If marriage is discouraged by making it the ground for dismissal from paid employment, it will be disastrous socially. We need the Equal Rights Amendment in the Federal Constitution to protect us from these attempts to curtail our human right to choose our own way of life."

Ruth Taunton of California testified from experience: "Labor laws in California that apply to women, but not to men, were the means of bringing organized business women of my State to endorse the Equal Rights Amendment. The California Federation of Business and Professional Clubs, with a membership of 9,000 women, employed in a wide range of occupations, endorsed one week ago today the Equal Rights Amendment at its National Convention in San Jose. Organized working women of California have consistently opposed and defeated all proposed labor legislation that did not apply to 'persons' in the last several years. But we are weary of being compelled to

spend time, money and energy on an unending stream of discriminatory bills in State Legislatures. The Equal Rights Amendment is no mere beautiful theory with us, but a grim necessity."

Ida Hodnett of the Government Workers' Council, declared that there is already a war being waged against depression, and these discriminations, especially in industry, are forcing women into another fight. "No matter how good fighters you men may think us, we do not want to have to fight two wars. War is what Sherman called it," she added emphatically, and caused even the committee clerk to laugh, "Government workers who are affiliated with the National Woman's Party have conducted a concerted drive against discriminatory measures aimed at women who work for their country. Nevertheless, as women, we are equally opposed to all discriminatory laws. We realize that even if women get fair treatment in the office and retain their jobs, in some States the husband has control of the wife's salary, her separate property and her children. The only permanent protection against these varied types of legal injustice is the incorporation of the principle of Equal Rights for men and women in the National Constitution."

Katherine Harrington of New York, a bookbinder, obviously won the hearts of all present, including the Senators, with her great honesty; a woman with a grown son, to whom she had been both father and mother, taking a day's leave from the factory where she had worked through the years to support her family, she asked the committee to forgive her ineptitude if she stumbled in her testimony. Senator Bratton responded immediately with kindly assurances of the committee's deep interest in what she might have to say. She said: "I come here as the representative of the Bindery Women's Local No. 66, International Brotherhood of Bookbinders, an organization of working women,

and as a practical bindery worker myself, to urge the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

"In the State of New York there are laws which discriminate against women, such as the *no night work law*, which deprived them of their jobs and forced them into other fields of industry. This had a tendency to lower the standards of those already engaged in these other fields. In many instances the women forced to make this change found the day jobs unsuitable for them.

"This discriminatory law restricting women made it necessary for them to seek the widow's pension or charity in one form or another.

"To my mind the minimum wage law for women not applying to men, recently passed and signed by the Governor of the State of New York, will find young and old men replacing women in our particular trade, because as we women know, the no night work law for women opened the road for men to do our work at night for a lower rate of pay, and now qualifies them to do this work in the day time with no restrictions as to hours and wages governing their employment.

"The rights of men and women lie in their work. When women are handicapped by class legislation that affects them only, it tends to create in women workers a disregard for the law and they take any opportunity offered them to violate the law, thereby receiving little or none of the benefits originally intended for them when these so-called protective measures were enacted for women."

"Who enforce these laws against you?" Senator Austin asked. "We can't tell," she replied earnestly, "but if we only knew who it was—" An ominous shake of her head brought general laughter and applause from committee members and the audience.

Mrs. Greathouse, Assistant United States Attorney said: "The amendment

we are asking today is one that I am sure every member of this committee approves in theory. When we went to school and learned the first principles of government, we believed that all the protective amendments of the Constitution applied to all of us, and we were proud of our country. That magnificent phrase in the Fourteenth Amendment, guaranteeing to all persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States 'the equal protection of the laws' does not say 'except women.' The school histories do not tell us that it means 'except women,' but the Supreme Court of the United States has supported the contention that the words 'except women' are understood there in view of the common law of England. We are simply asking that the phrase 'except women' be removed from the Constitution by means of the Equal Rights Amendment so that we shall truly have equality and justice for all."

The two women who appeared in opposition were Mary Winslow, of Washington, D. C., and Agnes Regan, also of Washington.

Miss Winslow is the legislative representative of the National Women's Trade Union League. She based her objections on the biological differences of the sexes, States' rights, and labor laws for women only, which she believes necessary. Miss Winslow filed briefs opposing the amendment for the National League of Women Voters, National Council of Jewish Women, National Board of the Y. W. C. A., National Consumers' League, National Home Economics League, American Federation of Labor, National Homeopathic Physicians, American Federation of Teachers and the Girls' Friendly Society. Miss Regan represented the National Council of Catholic Women.

The present status of the resolution is that it is before the sub-committee to be reported back to the whole Judiciary Committee.

The Story of the Woman's Party Conference

By Emilie A. Doetsch

AS little streams trickling down mountain sides grow into majestic rivers and later become part of the great swell of the sea, or as fires started by tiny sparks scattered here and there will, if the wind is favorable, grow into mighty conflagrations, so — those who attended the Conference of Party Workers of the National Woman's Party last Saturday and Sunday, May 27 and 28, are confident—a foundation has been laid that will make the principle of Equal Rights a living thing throughout the land.

Weather conditions could not have been more favorable, both literally and allegorically. While rose-scented breezes fluttered the curtains of the Garden House of the Dodge Hotel, the wind of enthusiasm

swept every heart. There were differences of opinion, of course, but they were expressed without bitterness or antagonism. They served merely to show that the ideal which each member is seeking in her own way to attain, is a "live" as well as a just one.

Edith Houghton Hooker, Maryland State Chairman, and National Chairman of Organization, made the key-note speech. She argued that organization, and more and more organization, are necessary so as to form a net-work with lines reaching into every city and county of the United States. Paralleling this geographical set-up, organization is also being carried on

along occupational lines. There is room for every woman, whether she works with hand or brain, in the ranks of the National Woman's Party. Business and professional women, home women, industrial women, women who are devoting their lives to the creative arts—poetry, music, drama, creative writing and the fine arts generally—all have their contribution to make and all are given equal recognition in separate Councils which, like the geographical units, are built up into State and National groups, both net-works, so to speak, when the plan is perfected, to be democratically represented on the National Council.

Mrs. Hooker was ably seconded by Maud H. Hudson of Richmond, State

Chairman of Virginia, who spoke enthusiastically of effective work that has been begun under the new plan in Virginia and especially in Richmond where a Business and Professional Women's Council has recently been organized under the direction of Mrs. Hudson and Millian Somerville; and by Florence Bayard Hilles of Delaware, Chairman of the National Council.

"Every time we come together," Mrs. Hilles said, "we feel we are taking another step forward. For thirty-seven years or more, Susan B. Anthony was not discouraged, and certainly we should not be. These conferences stir up so much kindly feeling that great results are bound to follow."

An animated discussion of the effectiveness of the new plan followed. Emma Maddox Funck, president of the Baltimore City Branch of the Party, introduced by Mrs. Hooker as having been "the pre-eminent leader in the fight for woman suffrage in Maryland," saw a similarity between organization and marriage in that "it is much easier to get organized than to stay organized." Assistant United States Attorney Rebekah Greathouse of Washington, D. C., chairman of the Lawyers' Council of the National Woman's Party, drove home the point, by urging that the "most important point in organizing is to hold on to members and not let them escape from us." Della Vincenti, Mollye H. Rollman, Florence G. Day, and Mrs. James W. Beall, all of Baltimore, contended that prompt collection of the membership dollar gave the new member a feeling that she actually counted, and Sara B. Cummings of Philadelphia, State Chairman of Pennsylvania, made the Maryland members sit up by her announcement that, as Pennsylvania was the Keystone State, it was the intention of the newly-organized Pennsylvania Branch to make itself a "formidable rival of the Maryland Branch."

Pennsylvania, in fact, according to its chairman, has the crusading spirit. Not satisfied with its own extensive territory, it is already sending missionaries into other States. Martha Shoppell, a recent Philadelphia initiate, is flooding Iowa and nearby States with National Woman's Party literature. "And," Mrs. Cummings added, "we feel so sure that it won't be long before the Equal Rights Amendment is passed, that we are getting ready for State ratification."

Vee Terrys Perlman of New York City, well-known student and writer on present-day problems, then presented a carefully worked-out plan which she had recently proposed to Jane Norman Smith, State Chairman of New York, for organizing the New York activities of the Party. It included the formation of publicity, membership, finance, political and speakers bureaus or committees, each with its work

clearly defined, and closed with the suggestion that "through the publicity bureau members should be reminded every once in a while of the business houses and other corporations which discriminate against women, with the injunction never to let down on the boycott while such a state of affairs exists."

From the Garden House, Amelia Himes Walker, a former White House picket of Baltimore, beckoned the delegates to enter the playhouse. This charming member of The Vagabonds, Baltimore's Little Theatre, the first of its kind in the United States, had built her toast scheme for the luncheon that followed the morning session around recent stage successes. She called first on Ruth Taunton of California, a member of Alice Paul's staff, to respond to "Both Your Houses." Miss Taunton gave an account, delightful for its tartness, of her recent lobbying experiences, one of which was that she succeeded in "converting five elevator boys in the House in one day to vote for our bill."

She urged a constant flow of letters from members to their own Senators and Representatives asking support of National Woman's Party measures. "If you hear a Congressman say, 'I haven't had a letter,' don't think it's unimportant," she said. A vista of the unending corridors of the Capitol and office buildings was conjured up by her plea to her hearers to "send roller skates for Dorothy and me (Dorothy Ogle of Catonsville, Maryland) so we can roller-skate up and down and save time."

Elizabeth S. Baker of Harrisburg, Pa., one of the leaders in the Pennsylvania State Teachers' League, and a valiant fighter against legislation discriminating against teachers, in responding to the toast "Three-Cornered Moon," said she was then making her first real contact with the National Woman's Party, although she had "always been a Feminist and I think in spirit at least with the National Woman's Party." Her recently-formed contacts with the Party made her realize how true was a remark overheard during the spring at Harrisburg of a legislator who said: "This is a different type of woman we have to deal with now."

"For a 'Design for Living,' I know of no better place to look than within the National Woman's Party," declared Julia D. Connor of Washington, formerly connected with "Better Homes in America," who radiated the spirit of that movement in her own lovely personality. With the delightful elan which she injected into her remarks, she gave, tongue in cheek, this bit of "sound" advice:

"As we read over the history of the woman movement, we find that they gained most of their points by out-talking the men, first at Norwich, then at Limestone in London, next in Glasgow, Burwick-on-Tweed, and finally at the

Lord-Mayor's banquet in the Guild Hall. And even as late as 1918, we find Mrs. Wiley and her coterie out-talking the then President Wilson. And history records: 'He turned away, disconcerted.' Well, who wouldn't be?"

IN a cool organdy frock with a floppy hat shading her brown eyes Edwina Austin Avery, president of the Government Workers' Council and also of the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia, looked like a girl graduate breaking ranks to receive her diploma rather than, as Mrs. Hooker introduced her, "the president sooner or later of a tremendous organization." There are now over 600 members in the Government Workers' Council. However, as the afternoon session progressed, the thought must have occurred to more than one present that there are presidencies and presidencies and that the suggestion often made to little boys that they may some day land in the White House may from now on be just as well be inculcated in little girls.

The general topic of discussion for the afternoon was "The Congressional Program of the National Woman's Party." Under that head, Florence Heath, the first speaker, discussed "Equality in Nationality." As a mother, this subject, she said, had a special interest for her, adding that everyone interested in women should be for equality in nationality. Laura Berrien of the District of Columbia, the National Treasurer, took part in the ensuing general discussion, making the point that this question "does affect every woman here in some way," and Nina E. Allender of the District of Columbia, artist, cartoonist and member of the National Council, called attention to the fact that, in so far as the drafting of nationality laws was concerned, it was "much better to get in at the start" than to permit discriminatory laws to be adopted and then try to have them repealed. She said that, if American women had been sufficiently alert when the Constitution was adopted, there would now be no need to struggle for a Lucretia Mott Amendment. Miss Berrien then analyzed the intricacies of the nationality question, indicating the two potential kinds of citizenship, through the blood and through the place of birth, and how the rights of women had been neglected in the framing of laws in regard to both.

Mrs. Hooker called attention to a scheme of the California Branch to educate its members thoroughly on all phases of the National Woman's Party Congressional program by holding a series of luncheons at each of which some point on the Congressional program is thoroughly analyzed and explained. She recommended this plan to other branches to the end that "our own members will be so well educated that they will be able to

answer the most difficult questions themselves."

Katharine H. Capayas, a native of Georgia and now a Government worker in the District, urged every woman present to "make a point of educating at least one other person in the equality point of view."

"We know," she continued, "that many places are closed to women or, if open to both sexes, that a different pay scale exists for the same work, according to the sex of the worker. We know that a father can will away the children, the mother being helpless. My own cousin in my own fair State of Georgia, did that very thing. In his will he named an outsider guardian of the person, and property of the children so, from the day of my cousin's death, his widow, the mother of the children, had no voice whatever in the management of her own children. We know that a mother who is still an American citizen, by grace of the Cabell Act, can still stand by helpless and see her child barred from its mother's country by quota limitations. We know these things, but too many women do not know them."

At this point Carrie Harrison of the District of Columbia remarked trenchantly:

"From the beginning of time, if a child is born out of wedlock, he has had one parent, the mother; if born in wedlock, he has had one parent, the father. I am a biologist and I think the time has come when every child should have two parents!"

Emma Shaw, the next speaker, eloquently advocated "Equality for the Individual Worker." She said in part:

"A minimum wage for women is bad. Women can be fired and men can be hired for less. Men workers say this will not generally result because men will not work for the small wage that the law will specify. Many union laborers will not, but there are millions of workers who do not have union regulations to abide by.

"A shorter working day for women than for men is bad. That, too, tends to force women out of their jobs. A law forbidding women to work at night if they wish is bad. That lessens their chances for employment.

"Men love the tradition built up around them that they are chivalrous. . . . It is about time that boys are taught along with manners that the world wasn't made for them alone—that their sisters have just as much right to fair returns for their efforts as they have. I would prefer to be offered equal pay for equal work, rather than a seat in the trolley car, for instance. I would prefer to be offered equal opportunity for equal effort, rather than to have a man politely pick up my handkerchief for me."

Dorothy Ogle, the Party's youngest lobbyist, a graduate of last year's class at Swarthmore, said she had made the rather amusing discovery that many of

the legislators who are talking most loudly about ousting married women from their jobs have women secretaries who are married.

Mrs. Avery discussed "Equality for the Married Worker," saying that "we women who have gone to colleges and worked with our brothers have tasted the sweetness of financial independence, and it's a sweetness we are not willing to give up. The idea of our opponents during this period is that it is absolutely wrong for a married woman to derive an income from any kind of paid employment. They want these women to step aside and make a hundred per cent sacrifice to men who have gotten us into this mess to get us out. We members of the Government Workers' Council have felt that, unless the women of the world are guaranteed economic independence, the matter of voting is a farce. And if the married women are dismissed, the matter will not be allowed to rest there. This would only be an added inducement to strike at the rest of our sisters who have so far been allowed to work in peace."

Mrs. Victor Dulac of Baltimore, Maryland, responded to the invitation for a general discussion of the question by throwing new light on the origin of chivalry. She said:

"According to popular literature, the woman always fools the man, but I think we can see through history that men fooled women with chivalry. Now they are doing this with protective laws. Although I am not a Communist, I recognize the fact that in Russia women have a better time; they have never had chivalry there and have always been on a level with men. But we have the blight that follows this beautiful flower of chivalry. They escaped!"

Mrs. Dulac added that "evidently our President's wife is on the right track. She wants camps for women who are unemployed."

Kathryne B. Withrow, president of the Government Workers' Council of New York, however, complained bitterly that, while Mrs. Roosevelt had eleven jobs, many married women in New York could not hold on to one. "They abolish the section you have charge of," she explained, "instead of dismissing you from your job."

A bit of drama was here injected into the proceedings with the statement by Mabel Slagle Noe that she would lose her job as typist in the Bureau of Navigation of the Navy Department, May 31, her husband being an employee of the State Department. She said she had served in the United States Naval Reserve during the war and in the combined naval and Civil Service fifteen years. She was living with her parents who were unemployed and had no income, and her husband whose actual salary, minus reductions under the Economy Act and because of the retirement fund, is \$1,369.20, contributes to

the support of his widowed mother. They have no other income.

Mrs. Avery added that she knew of another dismissed married woman Government worker who had "only \$42.50 cash on hand and ten dependents."

The session closed with a fervent appeal by Abbie Owen of Washington, member of the Government Workers' Council, for the organization of local and State councils or chapters of the National Woman's Party all over the country. "We must have a campaign," she urged, "for the readjustment of the status of the business woman. In organization is our salvation."

MATTERS took an international slant at the dinner Saturday night. Miss Baker of Harrisburg, who had literally been "roped in" for toastmistress just a few hours before, presided most graciously, and called on Sr. Don Benjamin Cohen, Chargé d'affaires of Chile, to make the first speech. She said that her acquaintance, as a teacher, with the topography of Chile had always made her feel that a country as rugged as Chile must perforce produce rugged characters.

Not only because of his geniality, but because of his feminist slant, the Chilean diplomat won over his audience quickly and completely. It was news to many of his hearers that since 1810 there have been no discriminations against Chilean women as regards nationality. And, he explained, the only obstacle to full equality is not that there is any feeling of inferiority on the part of the women or superiority on the part of the men, but that there are still many Chilean women who are amenable to the teachings of the Church, and the feeling is that before women are regarded as absolute equals of men under Chilean law, there must be the certainty that this freedom will be used by the women themselves and not by outside organizations.

He expressed the opinion that, with the coming of economic freedom for women, there would soon follow political freedom, and declared that personally he felt that "women, as a general rule, have a much greater intelligence to solve problems of politics than men." "This," he added with a smile, "is no Latin flattery. I am saying what I really believe. I am willing to say any day that I should like to have the common sense my three sisters have."

He called attention to the forthcoming Montevideo Conference, declaring that the women of this country could be of tremendous help in broadcasting the need for Equal Rights not along belligerent but educational lines. He said he was present at The Hague Conference and that it was his own delegation which had introduced the proposed equal nationality amendment. It was an impressive sight, he said, to watch the small group of

women who were lobbying for the passage of the measure, a group so small in fact that they were "lost in the halls of The Hague Palace." It was "very much to their credit," he said.

There was just one criticism, and that a minor one. He seemed to think it strange that the proponents of the measure should have thought it wise to place before the convention delegates "a thousand pages of everything written since Adam on equality," adding that what really counts in such cases is the procedure employed to capture the sentiment of those whose support is sought. Chilean romanticism reached its height in his closing remark, to the effect that, whenever one appeared before such a body to enlist its active and sympathetic interest in a cause affecting women, it is much better to present the problem in a way that "will burn our hands and scar our hearts."

Evelyn Byrd Howell of New York, president of the Goucher College Student Council of the National Woman's Party, said that youth must carry on the struggle which the present and past generations have begun. Any movement to succeed needed the initiative and courage of youth, she said, and that "if the angels knew what we know, they would come in behind us at least." She promised that the maturing generation of college students would "follow in your footsteps."

"This summer we shall try hard to organize in other States. Our Goucher College Council now has thirty members representing fifteen States and these girls are going out to organize councils in these States. Florida is one State in which we hope to have active councils.

"Our greatest debt is to you, and it goes to the bottom of my heart to acknowledge it. To feel that you have cared enough to tell us what conditions are and what there is before us to do. The cause is never lost so long as each succeeding generation is ready to help carry it on.

Arabel W. Clark, legislative chairman of the Pennsylvania State Teachers' League, gave a stirring account of the fight in which she and Miss Baker have been engaged for years "for the cause of the classroom teacher in the State of Pennsylvania."

Citing the fact that there is only one woman on the 15-member school board of Philadelphia, and that there are only two women as compared with 202 men in the lower House of the Pennsylvania Legislature and none in the State Senate, Miss Clark attributed the blame for this unequal state of affairs to the "indifference of womankind."

"In Pennsylvania there are almost 60,000 teachers listed in the State Teachers' organization, which is controlled entirely by the superintendents and principals.

They use our money to promote their own selfish individual interests."

She said that superintendents had refused to release teachers to go to Harrisburg to protect their interests, and that consequently teachers had to lobby at night, taking the long trip to the State capital after a hard day's work in the classroom. Further, Miss Clark said, she had been threatened with the loss of her job if she went to Harrisburg, and Miss Baker, her co-worker, because of her legislative activities, had been removed from her principalship to become a classroom teacher.

"Women," Miss Clark protested, "don't want protection. What they want is the opportunity to protect themselves."

The final treat of the evening was the speech of Mrs. "Jack" Stearns Gray of Washington on "Women in Aviation," which will be published in full in next week's issue of EQUAL RIGHTS.

THE strength of the hold that the National Woman's Party has upon its members could not have been more splendidly demonstrated than by the feeling shown in the debate which followed the reading by Miss Perlman of her brilliant article, entitled "Shall the Name of the National Woman's Party Be Changed," at the opening session Sunday morning. The article was so clearly conceived and written, and opened up so many avenues of thought, although the prevailing opinion of the meeting was against the change, that it will be printed in full in next week's issue of EQUAL RIGHTS. Before reading her paper, Miss Perlman spoke of a recent investigation she had made of a rumor she had heard that the Lehigh Valley Railroad had discharged married women. Though this was denied at first by agents of the railroad, Miss Perlman found that the dismissals had taken place. She said she saw no reason for women patronizing organizations that discriminated in that way, and urged her hearers to read EQUAL RIGHTS regularly where matters of this kind would be brought to their attention. On the other hand, she urged a "fair deal" for Senators and others who are "backing up our cause."

That the National Woman's Party should lay more stress on the cultural side of the movement, making known the achievements of women in music, art, poetry, the drama and the fine arts generally, was advocated by Emile Doetsch who led the round-table on "The Organization Plan." Organizations could enlarge their membership, she urged, if these creatively endowed women could find an outlet for their talents within the Party in helping to express its aims and ideals. She also urged a greater dramatization of the movement through pageants and out-

door demonstrations, such as the lovely pageant led by the late Inez Milholland, and the famous "hike" from New York to Baltimore led by "General" Rosalie Jones, now Mrs. Dill, wife of the Senator from Washington, during President Wilson's administration. She suggested the possibility of a bicycle trek from Washington to the Century of Progress in Chicago in which three movements—Equal Rights, youth and health—might be combined.

At her request Mrs. Hudson, State Chairman of Virginia, and Lois Buenschli of Philadelphia, told of progress along organization lines recently made in their own States.

Second only in warmth of feeling to the debate on a possible change of name of the Party was the discussion that followed Mrs. Cummings' speech on "Are State Campaigns Worth While?" which she answered with a vigorous affirmative, declaring that the "linking up of State aid with national aid is absolutely imperative."

The National Woman's Party, Mrs. Cummings asseverated, would never have to call in vain on Pennsylvania, because "we intend to strengthen the Party in Pennsylvania so that every woman in our State who believes in Equal Rights will be a member. That is our goal. We were once told that Miss Paul's work is her gift to women. The work that Pennsylvania women will do is our gift to Miss Paul."

Feeling that some of those present might have misunderstood the import of the question, Miss Perlman explained that it had arisen because in some quarters, notably in New York, it had been decided to abandon State campaigns, through which, it was thought, Equal Rights was being attained in homeopathic doses and where parallel campaigns were often carried on by other organizations, and to concentrate all on securing the passage of the national amendment. Miss Perlman did not express her own views, but merely gave the facts on the New York situation.

Sarah Crumb of Philadelphia thought the action of New York very ill-advised.

"To allow all women to be discharged in all municipal departments and make no protest" she said, "would be like refusing food to a starving man until you had worked out a perfectly balanced diet."

Mrs. Cummings said: "We wouldn't part with our two legislative representatives in Pennsylvania for anything in the world; it would be the worst thing that could happen to working women in Pennsylvania."

"I do not disapprove of State work," declared Elsie Hill of Connecticut, member of the National Council of the National Woman's Party and former Chairman of the National Council, "but I do think that if they had been properly at-

tending to their State work, that the Pennsylvania Branch would by this time have seen Mr. Boland of the Steering Committee and Virginia would have seen Mr. Drewry."

"State work is a million times worth while," interjected Mrs. Hooker. "You can capture the interest of the local women if you take up their local problems, when national questions leave them more or less cold. Industrial women, for instance, must first be approached through their local problems. It's like going to the top of the Washington Monument. You can take it step by step, or you can decide to take it all in one step, but the latter course would hardly be practical. And unless we feminize our own members of Congress, and they can be feminized, we can hardly make much progress with the Equal Rights Amendment."

Virginia had not contacted Mr. Drewry because the National Woman's Party was not organized in his district, Mrs. Fitzgerald of Richmond explained.

SOMEONE will have to find another name for Portia so that we can apply it to the nation's leading lawyeresses (we are also very tired of "woman lawyer") who combine wit, wisdom and womanliness in the same degree as that engaging and lovely Shakespearean lady. We are merely leading up to the fact that Rebekah Greathouse, Assistant United States Attorney-General, was toastmistress at the Sunday luncheon. Mrs. Greathouse said she had recently read a book in which occurred the phrase "invasion of women." Whether or not women had in sufficient numbers entered upon new fields to justify calling the phenomenon an invasion, she was not prepared to say, but she declared that the Conference had certainly shown that they were "articulate," and forthwith called upon Mrs. Hudson for further proof.

Rising to the challenge, Mrs. Hudson asserted that Virginia had been Feminist

since the day Sir Walter Raleigh insisted it be named for the virgin Queen Elizabeth, that it had the first college named for a man and woman, William and Mary, and that it had a coat of arms depicting a woman with her foot on a man's chest and bearing the legend "Sic semper tyrannis." The time would come, Mrs. Hudson predicted, when women would be equal before the law in Virginia. Then the woman's foot would be removed from the man's chest and they would go forth confidently, hand in hand, to face the future.

Many present at the dinner discovered for the first time that Indiana has a woman Representative in Congress. Virginia E. Jenckes is not one of those who were carried into office by the landslide. She earned her seat by her own independent efforts to better the conditions of the farmer in the Middle West, by soap-box speeches, and house-to-house canvassing. One of her opponents said: "If you send that woman to Congress, it will be two years before she knows where to hang her hat." Nevertheless, she arrived and with a better plurality than anyone received on her State ticket and, incidentally, has not only learned where to hang her hat, but also, as Mrs. Greathouse pointed out, has helped the farmers and also the hungry, dissatisfied veterans who were drifting back into Washington, changing a situation that might have resulted in bloodshed to one that evoked satisfaction and good nature on both sides.

That old stuffed shirt, chivalry, received its final wallop and death-blow from Ruth Hudnut, newspaper woman and author, described by the toastmistress, who had heard it from a friend, as being as "clever as the devil."

"Chivalry," she said, "is the champion kidder. It glorifies that in woman which it does not like in itself. Adam was chivalrous enough to include Eve in the story of creation. She was created from the noble Adam himself. But she was only

a rib and probably a floating rib at that!"

What chivalry connotes in modern civilization, Miss Hudnut said, "is demonstrated by the fact that through the Shepard-Towner bill, the nation spends yearly one six-hundredth of the amount that is spent for veterans," and by the further fact that "obstetrics is a neglected science in this country, the male students having a profound contempt for it."

AT the Sunday afternoon session, Ida I. Kloze, president of the Business and Professional Women's Council of Maryland, told of the two splendid achievements of the Council during the past winter, the formation of a thriving Council of Industrial Women in Maryland, and the defeat of the proposed Eight-Hour Law for women in the Maryland Legislature. Sophie Nordenholz, secretary of the Council and treasurer of the Maryland State Branch of the Party, had assisted Miss Kloze in this work and gave an interesting account of her participation in it. Lula E. Powell, State Chairman of the Republican Women of Maryland, explained how an industrial group in Maryland had recently been successfully organized, her talk providing stimulation and encouragement to those who might be contemplating such work in other States.

The resolutions adopted at the close of this session will appear in next week's issue.

For its final event, the convention adjourned to the garden of Alva Belmont House for a tea party under the trees and in close proximity to the rose garden where literally thousands of roses were in bloom. Mrs. Edwin C. Lublin, chairman of the District of Columbia Branch of the Party presided, and Alice Paul was on hand to welcome the guests. Assisting Mrs. Lublin were Mrs. Hudson, Mrs. Eunice Gregory Dyson and Mrs. Fitzgerald of Richmond, Virginia, and members of the District of Columbia Branch.

News from the Field

MRS. LOLA LLOYD of Illinois writes that at a meeting of the Illinois Branch of the National Woman's Party a letter was sent to Congressman E. M. Dirksen (Ill.) thanking him for his "intelligent and generous help" with the Equal Nationality Bill, H. R. 3673.

The meeting also passed a resolution urging Mr. Dickstein, chairman of the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization, to have the bill made law.

Government Workers' Council Meets

EXTENDING a warm welcome to their chairman, Edwina Avery, who again presided after an absence of three months, the Government Workers' Council held

its May business meeting at Alva Belmont House on Thursday evening, May 18.

Despite the fact that some members displayed notices of dismissal from the Navy Department, effective May 31, under the provisions of Section 213 of the Economy Act, a general feeling of optimism prevailed. Council members are encouraged over the recent statement by the Civil Service Commission that in making any dismissals or furloughs on account of necessary reductions in personnel due to the Administration's economy program, the State quota provision in the Independent Offices bill, now before the Senate, will take precedence over Section 213. Should this bill become a law prior to

May 31, appeals may be made for reconsideration of Navy Department dismissals based on the grounds of marital status only.

The thirty-year retirement plan and the ninety-day furlough plan, both of which have been incorporated in the Independent Offices bill, are also expected to assist in saving the jobs of married women in the Government service by reducing the number of dismissals necessary.

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